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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/936,294	03/11/2002	Yuji Kakehi	2576-118	2437
6449	7590	04/11/2006	EXAMINER	
ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, P.C. 1425 K STREET, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20005			GHULAMALI, QUTBUDDIN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2611	

DATE MAILED: 04/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is responsive applicant's Remarks/Amendments filed on 03/10/2006.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: Claim 3, lines 5 and 9 recite "fame", should not it recite "frame"? Appropriate correction is required.

Response to Arguments/Amendments

3. Applicant's request (see remarks/arguments pages 8-9) for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action with reference to rejection of claims 1, 2, 8, 10-13 and 15, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), has been considered and therefore, as a result, the finality of that action is withdrawn. The amendment after final has been entered.

However, the indicated allowability to claim 17 is hereby withdrawn. The rejection follows:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 8, 17, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shou et al (USP 5,910,948) in view of Lomp et al (USP 5,991,332).

Regarding claim 8, Shou discloses a mobile communication terminal comprising:

- a receiver (12) receiving a radio wave (11) from base stations (abstract; fig. 1; col. 3, lines 15-20, 45-48);
- a detector detecting spread codes from signals received by said receiver (col. 3, lines 45-63; col. 5, lines 60-67);
- a demodulator (30) demodulating the received signals with the spread codes detected by said detector (22, correlators 1-n) (col. 6, lines 18-37);
- a control unit (correlator controller) dividing a slot into a plurality of search ranges , deleting multipath in said search range, successively allowing demodulator (30) to demodulate the received signals and allowing decoder to decode the demodulated data (abstract; col. 3, lines 45-63; col. 4, lines 20-27; col. 6, lines 6-17). Shou however, is silent regarding:
- a decoder decoding data demodulated by said demodulator, and stopping signal processing of the cell search in response to detection of invalid cell code.

Lomp in a similar field of endeavor discloses,

- a decoder (fig. 15, elements 1713-1716) decoding data demodulated by said demodulator (col. 31, lines 1-15): and

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successfully allowing demodulator to demodulate the received signals allowing decoder to decode the demodulated data processing of the cell search in response to detection of invalid cell code (match and dismiss) (col. 30, lines 57-67; col. 31, lines 1-4). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a decoder and stopping signal processing of the cell search as taught by Lomp in the circuit of Shou because it can allow decoding of encoded data in each of the received message channel and facilitate search process so that signal power level of despread associated code signal is optimized.

With reference to claim 17, Shou discloses a mobile communication terminal comprising:

a receiving radio signals (11) from base stations (abstract; fig. 1; col. 3, lines 15-20, 45-48);

detecting slot timings from said received signals (col. 3, lines 45-63; col. 5, lines 60-67);

detecting a plurality of paths within each slot (col. 3, lines 15-20, 47-50, 65-67);

detecting spread codes from said received signals (col. 6, lines 5-12, 33-35);

for each of the plurality of paths, deleting multipath of the spread codes already

detected within a predetermined time (col. 6, lines 28-43);

successively demodulating the received signals subjected to the deletion of the

multipath with said detected spread codes (col. 31, lines 1-15); and

decoding said demodulated data (col. 3, lines 1-15).

Regarding claim 18, Shou discloses decoding process is not performed if the newly detected code is the multipath (col. 6, lines 20-30).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3-7 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the claim objection highlighted above.
7. Claim 14-16 and 19-23 allowed.


Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Qutub Ghulamali whose telephone number is (571) 272-3014. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mohammad Ghayour can be reached on (571) 272-3021. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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QG.
April 6, 2006.


JEAN B. CORRIELLUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER
4-8-06